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ex·tre·mum  (ĭk·strē məm)

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n. pl. ex·tre·ma (-mə)

Mathematics

A value in the domain of a given function at which the function attains a maximum or minimum value.

[From Latin, *extrēmum*, neuter sing. of *extrēmus*, outermost, extreme; see **eghs** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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